CENTRAL FAX-CENTER

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Michael S. Bertone et al.

09/651,924

Confirmation No.: 4257

Serial No.:

Group Art Unit:

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Examiner:

D. Nguyen

Date: May 28, 2004

For:

Mechanism To Control

Docket No.:

200301853-1

The Allocation Of An N-Source Shared Buffer

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the final Office action of April 15, 2004, please enter this Preliminary Amendment and corresponding Request for Continued Examination ("RCE") and amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.